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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/726,570

12/04/2003

Takshi Miyaji

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EXAMINER

LIU, LIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2145

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/21/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/726,570

Applicant(s)

MIYAJI, TAKESHI

Examiner

Lin Liu

Art Unit

2145

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06/28/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/16/2004.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to communications filed on 06/28/2004.
Claims 1-7 are pending and have been examined.
2. The information disclosure statement (I.D.S) filed on 03/16/2004 is considered.
3. Preliminary amendment on the Specification submitted on 06/28/2004 is considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102 (e) as being anticipated by **Harris et al. (Publication no.: US 2003/0188306 A1)**

Consider **claim 1**, Harris teaches a network application system with incorporated wide-area communications and local-area communications (Harris, fig. 1), the system comprising:

a network server that stores and processes transmitted data (Harris, fig. 1 and page 2, paragraph 19, noted the central system 12);

a single communication device with a wide-area communications function and a local-area communications function (Harris, fig. 1, and page 2, paragraph 19, noted the site controller 16);

a plurality of communication devices each with the local-area communications function (Harris, fig. 1 and page 2, paragraph 19, noted the gaming machines 14); and

a common application that is distributed to each of communication devices including the single communication device and the plurality of communication devices (Harris, page 2, paragraph 26 and 27, noted that the image is transferred to the site controller and the gaming machines), wherein such a network environment is provided that in the application operating on the single communication device, a module portion associated with the wide-area communications connects with the network server via a wide-area communications network, while a module portion associated with the local-area communications connects with the plurality of communication devices via a local-area communications network (Harris, page 2, paragraph 19 and 27, noted that the connection between the central system to the gaming machines can be LAN and/or WAN), in which the single communication device transmits a result obtained by executing the application among the communication devices via the local-area communications network to the network server via the wide-area communications network (Harris, page 3, paragraph 29 and 31, noted that upon receiving the desired image packets from the central system, site controller sends acknowledge signal back to the central system).

Consider **claim 2**, Harris teaches the network application system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of groups exists, each of the groups having the single communication device and the plurality of communication devices (Harris, Fig. 1 and page 2, paragraph 19).

Consider **claim 3**, Harris teaches a method of managing a network application system with incorporated wide-area communications and local-area communications that provides a network environment (Harris, fig. 1) wherein an application operating on a single communication device, a module portion associated with the wide-area communications connects with a network server via a wide-area communications network, while a module portion associated with the local-area communications connects with a plurality of communication devices via a local-area communications network (Harris, page 2, paragraph 19 and 27, noted that the connection between the central system to the gaming machines can be LAN and/or WAN), the method comprising in the network environment the steps of:

executing the application among communication devices including the single communication device and the plurality of communication devices via the local-area communications network (Harris, page 2, paragraph 26 and 27); and

transmitting a result obtained by the executing to the network server via the wide-area communications network from the single communication device (Harris, page 3, paragraph 29 and 31, noted that upon receiving the desired image packets from the central system, site controller sends acknowledge signal back to the central system).

Consider **claim 4**, Harris teaches the method according to claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

transmitting processed data obtained by processing the result to the single communication device via the wide-area communications network from the network server having received transmission of the result (Harris, page 3, paragraph 29, noted that after the central system processed the acknowledgement signal, it resends the image packet to the site controller if the packet was not received correctly); and

transmitting the processed data to the plurality of communication devices via the local-area communications network from the single communication device having received the processed data (Harris, page 3, paragraph 32, noted that if the gaming machine did not receive portion of the frame, the site controller resends the packet to the gaming machine).

Consider **claim 5**, Harris teaches the method according to claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

transmitting the application to the single communication device via the wide-area communications network from the network server (Harris, page 2, paragraph 26); and

transmitting the application to the plurality of communication devices via the local-area communications network from the single communication device having received transmission of the application (Harris, page 2, paragraph 27).

Consider **claim 6**, Harris teaches the method according to claim 4, wherein a plurality of groups exists, each of the groups has the single communication device and

the plurality of communication devices, and each of the plurality of groups has each of the steps (Harris, Fig. 1 and page 2, paragraph 19).

Consider **claim 7**, Harris teaches the method according to claim 5, wherein a plurality of groups exists, each of the groups has the single communication device and the plurality of communication devices, and each of the plurality of groups has each of the steps (Harris, Fig. 1 and page 2, paragraph 19).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Nguyen et al. (publication no.: US 2005/0107163 A1) discloses a gaming method of communicating two groups of network elements via a network server.
- Peterson (publication no.: US 2004/0132521 A1) discloses a gaming method of communicating plurality of servers via a network server.
- Buchbinder et al. (publication no.: US 2002/0078198 A1) discloses a personal server technology with firewall detection and penetration.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lin Liu whose telephone number is (571) 270-1447.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 5:00pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached on (571) 272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2145

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

L.Liu
06/18/2007



JASON CARDONE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER